

## CHRISTMAS TRADE OF HONOLULU IS GOOD

Retail Merchants as a  
Rule are Very Well  
Satisfied.

MUCH BETTER THAN LAST SEASON

HOLIDAY SHOPPERS ARE HUNTING FOR BETTER GOODS THAN OF YORE.

The Republican Interviews Business Men—The Verdict Is Practically Unanimous—Only One or Two in the Whole City Find Fault.

Honolulu merchants are in the midst of a busy holiday season. The holiday trade of a city or community is an excellent business barometer. Its volume not only indicates that ready money is plentiful, but also serves as a forecast of trade possibilities in the coming half year. Advertisers in The Republican are most emphatic in saying that there are no hard times in Honolulu, and that the volume of holiday trade would indicate a prosperous condition among all classes.

The plague fire was a blow to the people of this city which is still felt, and assessable stocks operate as a heavy drain upon the ready money supply of the investing classes. However, the pessimistic view that these causes would affect the Christmas business of the merchants is anything but unanimous, and hardly a respectable minority. A well to do and generous people loiter long in the shops and stores at Christmas time. Fort street is alive in the early morning hours with Christmas shoppers.

A consensus of opinion of the retail merchants as gathered by Republican reporters shows that there is no grumbling among business men, with the volume of holiday trade. With few exceptions, the merchants of Honolulu are satisfied with their Christmas business. Here is what they say:

Mr. Waity, of Salter & Waity, grocers—Our holiday trade is starting out good. We are satisfied.

The Coyne Furniture Company reports an excellent general business, with no special holiday boom.

Mr. Bergstrom, of the Bergstrom Music Company—Christmas trade is satisfactory with us this year. The people are liberal in the purchase of musical instruments for Christmas presents.

Pacific Import Company—Money seems a little scarce this year, but we have no complaint to make about scant Christmas business. Our store has been full of Christmas shoppers in search of the best goods.

A. Blum, of the Bargain Store—We have had a much better Christmas trade this year than last. I think we will do twice as much business. I have added three new clerks, and with our large force can scarcely take care of the rush of customers.

Mr. Williams, City Furniture Store—Our holiday trade is good.

Mrs. Williams, with a fine stock of Christmas novelties—I have been as busy as one could wish.

David Lawrence & Co., cigars—A larger sale of box lots and smokers' articles than ever before at Christmas time.

The Globe Clothing Company, which has been in business here but a few weeks—We are pleased with the Honolulu public as Christmas buyers.

The Kashi Store reported trade dull.

G. W. Smith, of Benson, Smith & Co.—Christmas trade has been very good, so far. It started out fair and the next few days promise well.

Fred J. Church of the Honolulu Photo Supply Co.—Our holiday business is all right. We are a week behind with our orders. Trade is a great deal better than it was a year ago and we have no "kick" at all. The beauty of it is that it is all local business, the tourist trade amounting to but little.

Mr. Lewis, of Lewis & Co.—We have a fair Christmas trade. It has started out all right.

O. H. Walker, of the White House dry goods store—Our trade is far better than it was a year ago. We have added three clerks to help out during the rush, and are very busy. Christmas shoppers are buying the highest class of goods this year.

W. Woon, manager of the Hollister Drug Co.—Our Christmas trade is very satisfactory. It is much better than at this season a year ago. Our force is kept constantly busy.

H. F. Wichman, Jeweler—My Christmas business is very satisfactory indeed. It is much better than it was one year ago. My finest goods are in the greatest demand.

B. F. Ehlers & Co.—Holiday trade is starting out pretty good. The best goods are in demand. I think the prospect is fine for a holiday business

equal to or better than last year.

R. A. Dexter, of the Pacific Cycle and Manufacturing Co.—Our holiday trade is better than it was a year ago. Bikes are becoming popular as Christmas presents and we are pleased with the volume of business.

E. W. Jordan—Christmas trade with us is very satisfactory. It is above the average this year and we feel that it augurs well for the business of the coming year.

T. May, of Henry May & Co.—In Christmas trade we are doing very well. We are satisfied with the way business has come in. All hands are busy. I think the indications are good that trade will hold up in the future.

Mr. Whitney of the firm of Whitney & Marsh—These are our first holidays in Honolulu. We have no former record with which to compare present sales, but are well satisfied with our first Christmas season in this city.

N. S. Sachs & Co.—Christmas trade with us has been good. We have no "kick." Our trade compares more than favorably with a year ago.

W. H. Smith, of the Manufacturers' Shoe Company—We are not having a Christmas rush, but are doing a very satisfactory holiday business compared with a year ago.

The Imperial Cigar Store, in the McInery block—A brisk Christmas demand for the better grade of box goods.

Wm. H. McNerny, speaking of his shoe business—Holiday trade in shoes is never so marked as in other lines. However, we have done more strictly holiday trade than in any year I have been in the business. I think our Hannan shoe, as advertised, has been a tremendous drawing card, and in a measure accounts for this gratifying business.

E. A. McNerny, of the men's furnishings side, did not feel so optimistic over holiday trade in his department. He thought a big change must come in the next few days, or the footings of holiday sales would be very disappointing.

J. M. Webb, of the Golden Rule Bazaar—We are busy day and night. Trade is away ahead of last year. It has nearly doubled as I saw from an examination of my books last night. We are doing all we could ask.

The Hawaiian Hardware Company makes no speciality of strictly holiday lines. The manager, however, stated—We have had a nice Christmas trade, fully up to previous years.

J. F. Humbert, of Hackfeld & Co.—Holiday trade over the Islands this year will not show a falling off compared with previous records.

Frank E. Nichols, of Wall, Nichols Company—We have never had such a prosperous year. Our Christmas trade has been the largest in the history of the house and we have even been unable to get clerks enough to wait on our customers.

L. B. Kerr, of Kerr & Co.—Our increase in sales over last year will probably be 100 per cent. The Christmas trade, although seemingly quiet, is greater, in my belief, than ever before, and if you come right down to cold figures all this talk concerning dullness will vanish into air.

J. H. Soper, of the Hawaiian News Company—We have not tried to handle any holiday goods this Christmas, but notwithstanding this fact our business is quite brisk.

Gus Schuman, of the Schuman Repository—Our business is just double what it was last year, and we look forward to a prosperous time.

C. H. Ramsey, of Hart & Co.—Our island orders have greatly increased since last year, but our sales have not been very brisk. We expect a heavy rush on the next two days, which will probably change matters.

D. W. Snow, painter—I have all I can possibly attend to now, while at this time last year I was practically a gentleman of leisure.

Miss Killian—Our order department has had its hands full all the year round. Our daily sales have not been very large up to a week ago, but we have been rushed quite a good deal lately.

W. C. King, of King Bros.—I cannot say what our increase has been over that of last year without consulting my books, but we have certainly improved 30 per cent.

Hoffschlaeger & Co.—Business is about the same.

W. W. Dimond—On the whole we are doing better than we did last year, but the increase is slight.

Honolulu Drug Company—Business is improving.

John Nott, plumber—We have had more work this year than we have ever had before, but the high prices have made our profits about equal to those of last year.

Charles Hustace—Business about the same.

H. E. Hendricks of the Honolulu Municipal Company—The increase in our business is considerable, but I will be unable to tell how much until I foot up the books. Along certain lines we have decreased, but on the whole we have improved.

Bailey's Honolulu Cyclery—Our business is just double what it was last year, and business is brisker than ever before.

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Funeral This Afternoon.

The funeral of the late James A. Hopper will take place from the family residence at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

CHRISTMAS AT CATHEDRAL.

Special Service at St. Andrew's—Amateur Orchestra to Assist.

There will be a special service of music at St. Andrew's Cathedral on Christmas day at 9:30 a. m. Several members of the Amateur Orchestra will assist, playing the opening and closing voluntaries accompanied by the organ. They will also assist in the hymns. In place of the anthem Mrs. Allan White will sing Gounod's beautiful "Ave Maria" with violin, piano and organ accompaniment. Mrs. White has a splendid voice and sings with perfect ease. All seats are free and ushers will be in attendance.

The full program is as follows: Prelude—"Melody in F."—Isenman Organ and Orchestra.

Carol Anthem—"Peace on Earth."

"Festival Response"—Tallis

"Verite to Double Chant"—Barnby

"Te Deum in B Major"—A. J. Holden

"Jubilate deo in B Flat"—H. J. Stewart

"Ave Maria" (with violin and organ and piano accompaniment)—Gounod

Mrs. Allan White

Hymn—"O Come All Ye Faithful"

Hymn—"Hark The Herald Angels Sing"

Sing—Mendelssohn

Postlude—"Festival March"—Tobani

Organ and Orchestra.

A celebration of the holy communion at 8:30 in the morning at St. Andrew's for the Second Congregation.

Following the morning prayer at 9:30 a second celebration of holy communion will take place.

Two SKELETONS FOUND TOGETHER IN THE BRUSH

POSSIBILITY THAT THE MEN FOUGHT A DEADLY DUEL.

Pair of Rubber Shoes for Each Were Lying in Place—Men Clearing Off Lantana Back of Lunaillo Home Made the Discovery.

Two skeletons were found yesterday by workmen while clearing away the lantana growth at the new stone quarries back of Lunaillo Home. The two were lying close together and were both evidently the skeletons of men. They had been lying undisturbed in their resting place for years. At least they had been on the spot long enough for lantana shrubs two inches in diameter to grow. A shrub of the size had grown through the innamintum of one of the skeletons, showing that death occurred a long time ago.

The possibility of any sort of a clue is very remote for the reason that the bodies have been in their seclusion for so long a time. To endeavor or attempt to solve the mystery resolves itself into a puzzle that for intricacies and possible solutions is seldom recorded in this peaceful part of the world. Perhaps the only way to figure out a theory of identity is to reckon upon disappearances. If anybody remembers, in the course of years, of two men having dropped out of sight not to return such information placed in the hands of the proper authorities might clear away a troublesome problem from the minds of those most directly interested.

One theory was advanced last night by a prominent citizen who saw the skeletons. He suggested that two sailors might have had a personal difference and have gone to the secluded spot to settle the matter. They might have fought a duel and having done so both been killed, as such things have many times happened from time immemorial when man has sought the life of his fellow. It is suggested in that connection that no instrument of warfare has been found but that does not signify what might be uncovered by search or accident. In support of the duel theory it is pointed out that one of the skeletons lay with arm outstretched in a position that might be taken by a prostrate man lying a victim of a fatal wound and pouring hot lead into the heart of his antagonist.

There were no marks of identity. No clothing was found except a something that looked like a decayed fabric over the bones. A pair of badly decayed rubber shoes for each dead man were at the feet.

Deputy Sheriff Callinghamworth was notified of the discovery by J. A. McCandless. The bones were brought to the police station and will be buried today. The chances for a solution of the mystery are so dim that no inquest will be held.

## SECRETARY GAGE ON FINANCE IN HAWAII

Postal Savings Bank  
Depositors Nearly  
All Paid Off

TERRITORY TO BE REIMBURSED

DRAFT OF AMENDMENT IS SUBMITTED FOR CONGRESSIONAL ACTION.

Interest on Hawaiian Public Debt Accrued Since July 15, 1900, Should be Paid by the United States Says the Secretary.

Lyman J. Gage, Secretary of the Treasury, in his annual report to Congress makes recommendations concerning the finances of the Territory of Hawaii that will be read here with interest. Aside from the facts and figures submitted, he adds the draft of an amendment to the joint resolution of annexation which, if passed by Congress will reimburse the Territory for interest paid on the public debt since June 15, 1900, as well as extinguish the Hawaiian debt of \$4,000,000 at once.

The Secretary's interpretation, which would hold the United States responsible for interest accrued since June 15, 1900, is in exact accord with the position of the officials of the Territory. In October, Governor Dole transmitted letters to Washington, taking this view, and it appears that the matter of the public debt will be settled without hitch or friction.

The report of Secretary Gage also sets forth the progress made in paying the depositors in the Hawaiian Postal Savings Bank. The report in full is as follows:

Provisions contained in "An Act to provide a government for the Territory of Hawaii," approved April 30, 1900, required the Secretary of the Treasury in the execution of the agreement of the United States as expressed in an act entitled "Joint Resolution to provide for annexing the Hawaiian Islands to the United States," approved July 7, 1898, to pay the amounts on deposit in the Hawaiian Postal Savings Bank to the persons entitled thereto. The appropriation provided for that purpose was available on and after July 1, 1900, when payment was to begin. From reports made by officials of the government of Hawaii and from a bank made by an officer of this Department sent to Honolulu for the purpose of inaugurating a system by which payment to the depositors in the Hawaiian Postal Savings Bank should be made, it appears that the amounts due to depositors on July 1, 1900, classified by nationalities, as nearly as could be determined, were as follows:

No.	Am't.	Av.
American	367	\$ 70,392.38
British	347	60,020.42
German	277	85,465.44
Hawaiian	1,028	404,126.56
Portuguese	423	143,213.88
Chinese	6,448	235,922.85
Sundry Nationalities	112	29,437.66
Total	9,049	\$704,670.31

In arranging for the payment of these deposits at the time specified in the act, the Secretary found it necessary to employ the services of the First Bank of Hawaii, located at Honolulu, and an arrangement was made whereby the bank should furnish the funds required to pay all certificates duly presented by the depositors, or those entitled to payment, on and after July 1, 1900, the bank to be reimbursed by the government as soon as the certificates so paid should be presented to the Department at Washington.

Up to the 15th of November \$494,189.53 has been paid to 2,170 depositors through this agency. There still remains \$270,380.78 of unpaid deposits due to 6,879 depositors, nearly all of whom are Chinese. These are now being paid off as rapidly as the claims are presented, and it is expected that all will be liquidated by the close of the year.

In this connection, the attention of Congress is invited to the terms of the joint resolution "To provide for annexing the Hawaiian Islands to the United States," approved July 7, 1898, by which the debt of the Republic of Hawaii lawfully existing at the date of its passage, including the sum required to pay the depositors in the Hawaiian Postal Savings Bank, not to exceed the sum of \$4,000,000, was assumed by the United States.

By the terms of this resolution the Hawaiian Government is required to pay the interest on said debt "so long as the existing government and the present commercial relations of the Hawaiian Islands are continued." This obligation upon the Hawaiian Government ceased on June 15, 1900, when the act to provide a government for the Territory of Hawaii went into

effect. The interest after that date is unprovided for, and should be assumed by the United States under a fair construction of the resolution. No appropriation beyond the amount required to pay the depositors in the Hawaiian Postal Savings Bank was provided for the payment of any portion of this debt. It is, therefore, urged that an appropriation be promptly made for payment of the debt assumed by the United States, together with accruing interest thereon, and of such further sum, not to exceed \$20,000, as may be necessary to cover commissions and all other expenses necessary to carry out the purposes of Congress as expressed in the joint resolution.

The following draft of an amendment is recommended for adoption:

"That in the execution of the agreement of the United States in joint resolution of July seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, the Secretary of the Treasury shall pay of the public debt of the Republic of Hawaii lawfully existing at the date of the passage of said joint resolution, now subject to payment, or which may hereafter become subject to payment, an amount not exceeding four million dollars, after deducting the sum required to pay the depositors in the Hawaiian Postal Savings Bank, as provided in the Act of April thirtieth, nineteen hundred, together with such amount as may be necessary to pay any accruing interest on said debt as above described for which the United States may be liable under said joint resolution, and the additional sum of twenty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be required to pay the expense incurred in carrying out the purposes of said resolution; and so much money as shall be necessary for these several purposes is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated."

## MOST PROMISING PLACE IN AMERICAN POSSESSIONS

JUSTICE GALBRAITH LOVES HAWAII MORE THAN HIS OLD HOME.

Immigration Would Be Easily Started on Proper Representations and Effort—Saw Honolulu Bank Bills in Oklahoma—Again on Bench.

"In all my travels I did not find any place that would suit me better than Honolulu. The Islands seem the most promising place in the possession of the United States." Hon. C. A. Galbraith, splendid in form, a fine portrayal of health and color, and cordial in address, spoke these words since his return to a Republican reporter. "Yet I enjoyed every hour of the trip, and altogether had a splendid time."

Justice and Mrs. Galbraith left on the Queen. Arriving at San Francisco, they proceeded to Kansas City, thence to St. Louis, and from there to Indianapolis and other Indiana points. That is Justice Galbraith's old home and he spent a considerable time at Columbus and Seymour, Indiana. He also visited Eureka Springs, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas. While in a banking house at Guthrie with a couple of friends he saw them with deposits consisting of two large packages of bank notes of the First National Bank of Hawaii.

"The whole country is very prosperous," the Justice went on, "and a great many asked about the Islands. Men of money and men of small means—both classes want to know what are the opportunities. If it can be shown that they will better their conditions by coming, an immense immigration could be easily started. Naturally it would be no trouble to get many to come if an improvement upon their present circumstances can be offered."

Justice Galbraith did not go further east than his old Indiana home. While he has many friends that are very close to President McKinley, he did not get any direct word through them from the President, he says. Neither did he meet any members of the Republican national committee, and like a jurist good and true, when ever he saw any politics coming he went around the block.

Congressmen generally, says he, are very friendly to this country and it is their firm intention to help Hawaii in many of her needs that are pressing. This, he says, is so apparent as to be in the air, and it cannot fail to be of effect when the opportunity arises in the national lawmaking body.

It did not take Justice Galbraith long to resume his duties and don his ermine in the Supreme Court. The effect of the memorable ride on the Sierra was such as to prove him to be a pretty good sailor and one upon whom the muscular state after a sea voyage which every body knows the name of, does not last long.

Christmas Box for Charley. Charley Peterson, the lookout at Diamond Head who renders the merchants of Honolulu such valuable ser-

vice in reporting the arrival of incoming vessels has been remembered this year as usual. A subscription list started by Col. J. H. Soper amounts to \$400 which sum will be Charley's Christmas present from his many friends among the business men.

Big Store Raided.

Deputy Sheriff Chillingworth and Officer George Sea raided the store of Kwong Lee Yune & Co. on King street last night for opium. They captured eight tins of the drug and placed Yee Ki Chun Kun and Ah Ham under arrest. They were released on \$300 bail.

## 'T WAS A GALA NIGHT FOR THE SURGING THROUGHS

Ante-Christmas Sightseers Made Times Lively Throughout the Business Center Last Night.

It was a gala scene that the streets of Honolulu presented last night. The ante-Christmas shoppers and sightseers thronged every thoroughfare and the more beautiful of the artistic show windows were such centers of attraction that it was for a long time next to impossible to even catch a glimpse of the beautiful things within. The crowds surged to and fro and kept things in a lively state until away after 10 o'clock.

Each and every part and portion of the globe celebrates Christmas and has its peculiar modes of so doing. It is not necessary to state what all of the different whims and fancies of the various places are but to get at the idea of a Christmas in Honolulu it can perhaps best be compared to the Pacific coast cities where the weather is mild and people gather about the show windows with impunity to cover the tempting things therein.

In Honolulu the people throng the streets Christmas time in very pretty attire, both men and women dressed in immaculate white, native women in comfortable Mother Hubbards. Mark Twain, when he many years ago, sent out a slanderous report that they were not dressed even that plentifully and that their Christmas dinner was of missionary rather than turkey, but the latter reference has nothing to do with the street scene. The crowd went hither and thither, back and forth on Fort street, Hotel Nuuanu, King and others, and saw everything that was to be seen. The evening was pleasant and fans were not much in demand, although they make a very appropriate present at this or any other time of the year in Hawaii. To prove to those who may doubt it that the winter weather is not very severe it might be mentioned that several people were seen striking at mosquitoes in an angry way as if they had a notion to do the little insects great bodily harm or otherwise put them to death unawares. In other words the mosquitoes that died last night were not frozen to death. And be it noted that the full quota of flower sellers barefooted and unkempt sat on the sidewalks as usual and waited for their customers to seek them out.

Frequent were the expressions of contrast between the unhappy experiences of the plague days of a year ago, and those so characteristic of pleasure and absence of earthly care that is pictured on the face of the multitude as seen in this city at the present day.

The lily of the field that toils not nor spins nor has any other plikia, and is so beautiful is only a fair simile to the faces of careless contentment and frocks like the pure white heavenly snow that were so much to be seen last evening in Honolulu.

## FIREMEN WERE HELPLESS AT A FLAZE LAST NIGHT

The chimney on J. Watter's house on Thurston avenue, corner Green street, caught fire last evening about 8 o'clock. For a few minutes the house was in considerable danger and an alarm was rung in.

When the firemen arrived on the scene they did quick work in preparing to extinguish the flames, but in tapping the main at Victoria and Lunaillo streets the valve gate broke and the whole hill was without water. The fire soon burnt itself out, but the main caused more trouble. There was soon about two feet of water in the trenches of the Rapid Transit Company. The steam roller near by resembled a sternwheel ferry boat, as the water gathered about it. The main was finally closed up and but little damage was done.

Leung Is in Sydney.

The local Bow Wongs have at last received word that Leung Chi-to, the young reformer for whose head \$65,000 is offered by the Chinese government, is now in Sydney where he is carrying on his work with undaunted vigor.

Warden Johnson has announced that typhoid fever has broken out among the convicts in Sing Sing prison.

## HUMANE PEOPLE OF LOS ANGELES AROUSED

Wrought Up Over the  
Treatment of the  
Porto Ricans.

OFFICIALS ASKED TO INTERFERE

EMIGRANTS ARE THE MOST DEGENERATE AND MISERABLE SPECIMENS.

Even the Railroad Officials Became Ashamed of the Manner of Transporting Them and Provided Another Car Such as it Was.

The Los Angeles Times of Wednesday, December 12, had the following news item concerning the Porto Rican emigrants destined for Hawaii who were at that time penned up in the cars at the desert station of Indio on the Southern Pacific Railroad 100 miles east of Los Angeles.

The officers of the local Humane Society and other citizens with humane instincts were greatly wrought up yesterday over the outrageous treatment of a party of Porto Ricans en route from their native island to the sugar plantations of Hawaii.

There are 112 people in this party of emigrants who, at last accounts, were sidetracked on a Southern Pacific switch at Indio. Horrible stories about the deplorable condition of the emigrants have been in circulation for the last few days, and yesterday were brought officially to the attention of the Los Angeles police and Federal authorities. As a result of these tales, an official investigation has been set under way.

Announcement was made as much as six months ago that the sugar planters in Hawaii had resolved to solve the labor problem in those islands by importing laborers from the cane fields, from Porto Rico, thereby relieving some of the distress in the latter island and at the same time securing ample labor at a reasonable price for the plantations in Hawaii. Later it was announced through the press dispatches that an agent of the planters had appeared in Porto Rico and had found the natives of the latter island very willing to emigrate to the isles of the Pacific, on the assurance of steady work at remunerative wages.

Most Miserable Lot.

About ten days ago word came from New Orleans that the first installment of Porto Ricans destined for Hawaii had arrived by steamer at that port and would be immediately transhipped via the Southern Pacific Railway to San Francisco, to go thence by steamer to Hawaii. The report stated further that the emigrants were the most degenerate and most miserable specimens of humanity that had ever passed through the port of New Orleans. Nothing was said in the early reports about the willingness of the emigrants to make the long journey on which they had embarked, but for the last few days blood-curdling stories about the alleged kidnapping and enslavement of this cargo of Porto Ricans, have been in circulation.

It was alleged that they were led to believe that they could better their condition by going to a different part of the island of Porto Rico to obtain employment. One R. A. Macfie, an alleged agent of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, was said to have gone among the natives in the vicinity of Aricebo, a town near San Juan, Porto Rico, and promised them \$20 a month for plantation labor, whereas they were earning only \$15 a month where they were located. Living expenses were to be provided at \$5 a month per man, leaving a profit of \$12 a month. Heads of families who did not wish to change their location without taking their wives and children with them, were promised free transportation for the women and children as well as the men, with compensation to the men's families in proportion to the amount of plantation labor they might perform.

Started Blindfold.

To an understanding of this sort no fair-minded person could take exception, but it was represented in the published reports that the Porto Ricans did not know anything about their proposed destination until they were landed in New Orleans and started upon their long journey across the continent. It was said that many objected when they found out that they were being taken so far away from their native land, and protested to being taken any further on their enforced journey. Their protests were in vain, however, it being asserted that they were hustled into cars like a herd of cattle and started across

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